

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 05-03-29**

Date Published: March 24, 2005
For Work Week Commencing: March 28, 2005
Commission Meeting: March 29, 2005, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Kate Whitney at (406) 444-3056. She may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

9:00 a.m. Weekly Scheduling (Commission Conference Room)

9:30 a.m. Business (Bollinger Room)

Public Comments

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. Qwest Communication Corporation N2005.3.28 (Scott)

On March 11, 2005, Qwest Communication Corporation (QCC) filed tariff Transmittal QCC05-02. This filing introduces the QWEST CHOICE Unlimited Plan for Business customers, and is moving the QWEST Long Distance Advantage to the obsolete service offering section. Probable motion: Approve QCC's tariff Transmittal QCC05-02 in Docket N2005.3.28.

2. Qwest Communications N2005.3.30 (Scott)

On March 11, 2005, Qwest Communications filed Tariff Transmittal 05-07, Grand father certain business packages and services and introduce new ones. Qwest

proposes the following new services: Qwest Choice™ Business, Qwest Choice Business Plus, and Qwest Choice Add-A-Line. This filing also grandfathers the following: Qwest Choice Business and Qwest Choice Two-line Business package, Business CustomChoice™ including the Minute Free Calling Connection Plan, Qwest Business Line Plus™ and Utility Line, Customized Call Management Services, Call Manager Connections, SmartSet and SmartSet Plus, Centrex 21 including the Minute Free Calling Connection Plan, and a portion of Business Line Volume Purchase plan. Included in this filing are minor textual and format changes. Probable motion: Approve Qwest's tariff Transmittal 05-07 in Docket N2005.3.30.

3. QWEST SERVICES CORPORATION N2005.3.25 (Leroy)

On March 15, 2005, Qwest Services Corporation filed Tariff Transmittal 05-AC01, Common Channel Signaling Access Capability Revisions. The filing is being made to introduce clarifying language for Common Channel Signaling Access Capability (CCSAC). The language was developed and agreed to in discussions with AT&T. These changes have no customer cost or rate impact but affected customers are being sent an individual letter notifying them of the filing. Qwest is requesting an April 14, 2005 effective date. Staff recommends approval. Probable motion: Move to accept Tariff Transmittal 05-AC01 in Docket N2005.3.25.

4. HOT SPRINGS TELEPHONE COMPANY N2005.3.32 (Leroy)

On March 15, 2005, Hot Springs Telephone filed proposed changes to the Hot Springs Telephone Company Low Income Telephone Assistance Program. These proposed tariffs reflect the changes required by the FCC order and have also been updated to reflect that the HSTC service area is encompassed entirely on the Flathead Indian Reservation, in accordance with the FCC Order. Staff recommends approval. Probable motion: Move to accept the proposed changes to the Hot Springs Company Low Income Telephone Assistance Program in Docket N2005.3.32

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. (3/28/05, 10:30 a.m.) – Legislative Matters – Discuss bills and other matters related to the 2005 session. (Commission Conference Room)
2. (3/28/05, 10:30 a.m.) – D2005.2.14 – NorthWestern Energy – Discuss and act on application for advanced approval of Judith Gap Wind contract.

3. D2004.8.135 – Qwest competitive response tariff filing – Discuss and act on all pending motions, including motion for interim approval and any other motions and objections filed; discuss issues generally for upcoming hearing and hearing dates; discuss and other relative issues pertaining to the docket. (3/29/05)
4. N2005.3.25 – Qwest – Discuss and act on tariff transmittal 05-06 residence and business competitive response promotions. (3/29/05)
5. D2003.8.105 – Mid Rivers Cellular ETC application – Obtain Commission direction to revise and issue the final order. (3/29/05)
6. L-04.07.5-RUL – ETC Rules – Discussion, direction, and action on adoption of proposed rules. (3/29/05)
7. D2003.7.86 and D2004.6.96 – NorthWestern Energy – Discussion, direction, and action on discovery dispute, other matters as necessary. (3/29/05)
8. D2002.11.140, D2003.6.66, D2004.6.88 – NorthWestern Energy Gas Trackers – Discussion, direction, and action on settlement of gas trackers and related litigation. (3/29/05)
9. Staff Travel – Act on request for staff member to attend CREPC meeting in San Jose. (3/29/05)
10. Select PSC member to serve on Montana Information Technology Board. (3/29/05)
11. Legislative Matters – Discuss bills and other matters related to the 2005 session. (3/29/05)
12. **1:30 p.m.** – D2005.2.14 – NorthWestern Energy – Discuss and act on application for advanced approval of Judith Gap Wind contract. (Commission Conference Room) (3/29/05)
13. (3/30/05, 9:30 a.m.) – Legislative Matters – Discuss bills and other matters related to the 2005 session.
14. (3/31/05, 9:30 a.m.) – Legislative Matters – Discuss bills and other matters related to the 2005 session.

15. (4/1/05, 9:30 a.m.) – Legislative Matters – Discuss bills and other matters related to the 2005 session.

Other Meetings

Weekly Scheduling – Will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the Commission Meeting

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. AVISTA ENERGY, INC. N2005.3.33 (JOEL)

On March 21, 2005, Avista Energy, Inc. filed an application for a natural gas supplier license pursuant to Commission rules.

Protective Orders – Notice Items The Commission has received the following requests for protective order pursuant to ARM 38.2.5007. The Commission will rule on the requests no earlier than 10 days after the publication date of this agenda. Comments on the requests may be submitted at any time prior to ruling. Any person interested in seeking a copy of a protective order request should contact the Commission at 406-444-6199.

Protective Orders – Information Items The Commission has issued the following protective orders. These orders may be challenged pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

New Filings Received in Past Week

N2005.3.33 - Avista Energy - Application to become a Licensed Natural Gas Supplier in Montana

N2005.3.34 - City of Great Falls - Application for a License to Supply Electrical Energy to Small Customers and Residential Customers

N2005.3.35 - EPCOR - Application to receive a license to sell electricity to consumers in the state of Montana